

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION (37 CFR §1.121(b))

Please insert the following paragraph immediately prior to line 1 at page 1 of the specification.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

Please insert the following paragraph between lines 1-2 at page 1 of the specification.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Please insert the following paragraph between lines 15-16 at page 1 of the specification.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please insert the following paragraph between lines 15-16 at page 3 of the specification.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please insert the following paragraph between lines 21-22 at page 3 of the specification.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION

Please insert the following Abstract following the claims (such Abstract being taken from corresponding PCT publication WO2005069722, and also being provided on a separate sheet accompanying this Preliminary Amendment, as per 37 CFR §1.72(b)):

A shim (10) for use in the building industry is formed of first and second wedge elements (12, 14) which are substantially parallel to one another and are of an elongate configuration. Each wedge element (12, 14) is provided with retaining means along one longitudinal side thereof, which take the form of a line of teeth (16, 18). These teeth (16, 18) have the purpose of holding between adjacent teeth a nail or screw which would keep the shim (10) in position. The two wedge elements (12, 14) are coupled together by a coupling element (40) at the thick end of the shim (10). The coupling between the element (40) and the wedge elements (12, 14) is such that the elements (12, 14) act in a unitary manner, substantially as would a shim formed by a single wedge element. The break lines (34, 36) at the top of the wedge elements (12, 14) enable the user to detach the wedge elements (12, 14) from the coupling element (40) so that they can be used separately. This can be useful when a shim of smaller dimensions is required.